



THE STRIKER STATEMENT

Issue # 24 OIF

30 October 2003



Editor

If there is anyone who would like to receive this by email simply drop me a line and I will add you to the distribution list. ted.m.preister@us.army.mil

CPT Ted M. Preister

BCT Rear-D Commander

HELLRAISERS

The Hellraisers are hitting stride in Baghdad. The Kellogg-Brown and Root Dining Facility opened on 9 OCT and provides four meals a day for our soldiers. Our DFAC personnel have been working hard to ensure we get two high quality meals for our soldiers at the Headquarters each day. In addition, we now have the Striker Shuttle Bus which provides our soldiers access to the AAFES PX and KBR DFAC throughout the day.



As you well know we are continuing to send soldiers on Mid-Tour Environmental Leave and In-Theater Rest and Relaxation Passes. On 14 OCT, we just sent three more lucky soldiers home and welcomed back our first soldier on leave, SPC Glen Cummins, who got to spend some quality time with his lovely wife, Sarah, and their newborn daughter, Angelina Jasmine, born on 10 SEP. SPC Cummins has given 1SG Bray and myself some very good information on how to make the leave process run even better.

The soldiers now have a 24-Hour Internet Cafe with 10 computers to e-mail home. Unfortunately, we lost our MCI MWR phone last week, but we are working to get a Satellite Phone Center established. I would like to congratulate SFC Alvarez on six years

of hard work as an NBC NCO for DIVARTY and 2BCT. On 14 Oct, SFC Alvarez was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal for his exceptional performance and is PCSing to FT Sill, Oklahoma. Good Luck, SFC Alvarez.

HELLRAISER 6



HHC, 2ND BDE family enjoyed the VTC at Brigade Headquarters Conference Room on 28 October. A special thanks goes out to Bryan Baugh of the BSB for helping us set up and training us on the VTC at our home station.



Mrs. Carliss Stokes and her daughter had the pleasure of conversing with SFC Stokes, of our S-6.

-- HHC 2 BDE FRG Meeting Nov 4 at 18:30 in the Dayroom

CONQUERERS



"2nd BCT NEWSLETTER" For Previous editions go to
http://www.2bct.1ad.army.mil/2ndBCT/striker_newsletter.htm



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MUKHTAR ELECTIONS IN AI-SALHIYA by: 1^{LT} Dallas Cheatham, A / 2-6 IN Executive Officer

For units in Baghdad, the reconstruction effort takes on many different forms. Coalition forces have not only set their sights on rebuilding structures and facilities damaged during the war, but also the repair of governing and representation systems necessary for the establishment of local government. The soldiers of A Company, 2-6 Infantry (Task Force 1-35 Armor) are currently aiding the reconstruction by supporting the Salhiya Neighborhood Advisory Council (NAC) in the re-election of Mukhtars for their neighborhood.

Mukhtars are neighborhood representatives, and have existed since before the fall of the old regime. They have a close relationship with the people of the neighborhoods they represent. This is largely due to their involvement in all major decisions and activities in their respective areas. Mukhtars are very familiar with what goes on in the neighborhood and keep track of important events in the lives of the families in their area. All births were reported to the Mukhtars and before joining the military young men had to first register with them. They play the role of "village elders" and are consulted on many issues ranging from marriages to land disputes.



PFC Hem, A/2-6 IN, hands a local businessman a flyer explaining the new Mukhtar election procedures in Salhiya, Baghdad.

Under the old regime, the people were taken out of the election process, because Mukhtars were Ba'ath Party members appointed by the government to over watch activities in the neighborhood. Members of the Salhiya NAC expressed concerns about their current Mukhtars immediately after the NAC was organized

in July. Many felt that the Mukhtars hired by the old regime were not fulfilling their duties. CPT Nauman, Company Commander of A/2-6 IN, acknowledged that this was a very important issue and agreed to work closely with the NAC to fix the problem. Since then, the NAC has met on several occasions to discuss a solution.

Soldiers attending NAC meetings attempt to let the people handle their own issues and assist the decision making process only when asked to do so. "We try to maximize or assistance while minimizing interference when dealing with the NAC on issues like electing new Mukhtars," says 2LT Jared Vineyard. 2LT Vineyard is the A/2-6 Civil- Military Operations Officer and accompanies the Company Commander to all NAC meetings. Developing their own solutions to different issues is proof that Iraqis are taking the reconstruction of their society to heart.



A PA equipped HMMWV from 315th PSYOPS rolls through the Salhiya neighborhood with soldiers from A/2-6 IN to put the word out about new Mukhtar elections.

The idea of democratic elections of representatives is a new idea to many members of the NAC, but that fact did not hinder the members from forming their own plan of action. The NAC members established their own working committee of three individuals to focus solely on the election issue. At the September 28th NAC meeting, the committee presented a list of pre-requisites for any Mukhtar candidates. The council agreed that Mukhtars must be at least 40 years of age, have lived in the neighborhood for at least 10 years, have no criminal record and be nominated by a minimum of 30 neighborhood residents. The council also discussed voter eligibility, polling centers, and other administrative issues





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associated with the election. CPT Nauman suggested public speeches for candidates, so that not one candidate would have an advantage for campaigning. He also offered the support of US forces for disseminating information about the elections through the use of PA systems and flyers.

The meeting closed with the establishment of an administrative body for the election consisting of individuals from the NAC and the choosing of an election day. Several members of the NAC will continue to work on the administrative issues with support from A/2-6 and 1-35. The election date was set for Friday, October 18th, to allow maximum participation. To date, this is the first democratic election of this scale in all of Baghdad.

Congratulations go to SGT Casey & Jasmin Wilkes (C. Company) on the birth of a baby boy! Preston Tyler was born 26 October and weighed 9 lbs.

C. Company FRG will be having a **Thanksgiving Dinner** on November 8th at building 8876, Wetzel FRG room. Please contact Sunny Graves, BC 990842, with the dishes you will be bringing.

THUNDER FROM THE DESK OF THE COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR



4-27 FA Soldiers recommitting themselves to the U.S. Army by reenlisting

Hello Family members. Time is moving right along. It's getting close to the midway point and the soldiers are performing great. We have worked hard

to reestablish the security and infrastructure of Iraq. The Police, Fire Departments and Bus Service are working. Iraqi's are getting their lives back to normal. Our patrolling has intensified. You have a lot to be proud of. The Thunder Soldiers are leading the way in all areas, whether in security or civil affairs.

Many improvements to our Forward Operating Base have occurred over the last few weeks. We will open our new Small Arms Range soon and the range will be dedicated in the memory of SSG Kevin C. Kimmerly. We just completed our first renovation of barracks and soldiers moved into the newly renovated building October 4th. We now have a PX, Barber, Laundry Service and an Internet Café. About 85% of our soldiers are now in a permanent structured building. We hope to have all soldiers in barracks by the end of the month. Please continue with the great support for our soldiers.

CSM Robert V. Kelly Jr.



Alpha Company posing for a picture.

REGULARS

Most of us are used to the idea that our job has an international flavor to it (after all, at present our "homes" are in Germany). We travel to many different countries in the course of a career. Still as we live on American bases, shop at the PX and Commissary, watch AFN on our TV sets, and use English in all our daily business, we can sometimes forget that we are part of an international community





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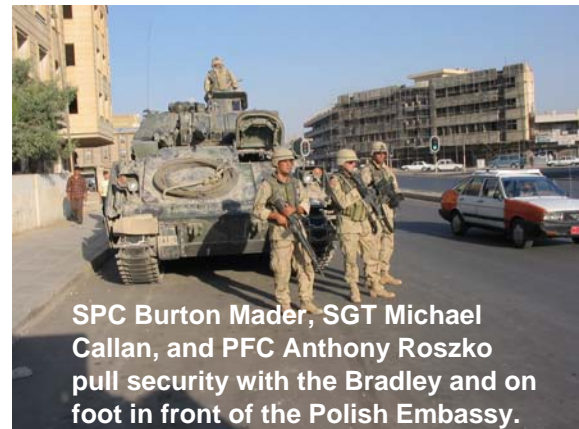
and working as part of an international coalition. Even here in Baghdad, aside from an occasional meeting with a British or Australian soldier we rarely see any evidence of the other nations involved in operation Iraqi Freedom. That changed this week.

This week MP's were ambushed in the Muslim holy city of Karbala, about 120 kilometers southwest of Baghdad, killing several soldiers including the Battalion Commander. Alpha Company, with attachments, was added to our sister battalion, 2-6 Infantry, as part of a quick reaction force. On just a couple of hours notice our boys were on the road for a 6-hour road march to join the international forces already there. Our coalition allies from Thailand, Poland, Hungary and Bulgaria had soldiers at the camp when our troops arrived. Alpha company took 1st and 2nd platoons as well as one each from Bravo and Charley companies. After the grueling convoy Charley Company's 2nd Platoon finally had a brief moment to get a little rest only to be awakened by their Thai and Polish allies shooting pictures of them and saying "sleep, sleep."

During the four days in Karbala our boys executed two high visibility missions. In their first mission they worked with their opposite number, Alpha 2-6, to clear four large city blocks. The second mission was very politically sensitive as the bad guys were entrenched in a mosque. The soldiers had help from their new comrades in the Iraqi Civil Defense Corps (ICDC). As our US forces cleared the surrounding buildings, the Iraqis entered the mosque. Upon the arrival of our superior firepower the 23 men surrendered to our guys without contest. What could have been a very dangerous mission ended without loss of life and resulted in the capture of 10 weapons and 40 suspected terrorists.

In addition to sending a platoon to support Alpha Company's mission to Karbala, Bravo had another international experience when they were called upon to help secure the Polish Embassy. The Poles had received threats and asked for help. Our soldiers not only provided a security force, they provided and assisted in the emplacement of barrier material to help secure the facility. SPC Burton Mader commented, "I'm just glad to help out. They were really worried when we first got here."

Back in the base camp at FOB Regular, operations continued even in the absence of almost half our combat power. The comms section had a busy week. Their normal duties of tracking and maintaining all the radios, DNVF telephones and computer equipment keep them busy enough. SGT John Young described their efforts, "Everyone in the shop always gives 110% to make up for the 10% that can go wrong. That way, we are assured of mission accomplishment." They now have the added responsibility of monitoring the 1st Armored Division Internet Café that went operational this week. 1LT Michael Peterson stated, "Having the Internet Café here is a great way for the soldiers to stay in touch with home. We have plans to go the extra step and get web cams so they can actually see their families."



Whether it is supporting our allies, assisting sister battalions in short suspense missions, providing photo "targets" for our friends who may have never seen an American before, or taking care of the multitude of tasks required to keep our boys in the field and in touch with you at home, the Regulars are up to the task. As we cross the halfway point we sometimes dare to think of home. Still we focus on the mission, keeping our eyes on the goal. And, we continue to be thankful for your support. Our thoughts and prayers rest with you. Till we return we will always be **Regulars...By God.**

- Haunted House 30 & 31 Oct from 18:00-20:00 in the 1/6 Conference Room





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- *****CHANGE***** Pizza and Piñata Party 31 Oct from 16:00-17:30 in the 1/6 is in the Wetzel FRG room
- Dessert Night 27 Nov 18:00-19:00 in Conference Room
- Make a picture for Mom/Dad to send downrange, FRG Room Wetzel on Nov 9 from 14:00-16:00.
- FRG Meeting @ 1800 hrs @ Wagon Wheel Theater

PIONEERS

- Make a picture for Mom/Dad to send downrange, FRG Room Wetzel on Nov 9 from 14:00-16:00.
- FRG Meeting @ 1800 hrs @ Wagon Wheel Theater

RAMS

In all walks of life, one meets all kinds of people. The soldiers of 1st Platoon, A Company of the 40th Engineer Battalion have found this to be true, even in Baghdad. Like all soldiers deployed to Iraq, they have found that interaction with the local population is an inevitable part of the job that they perform. These interactions range from friendship to hostility and run the full spectrum in-between. Perhaps the most positive experience that these soldiers have with the Iraqi people is the close relationship that has developed with the platoon's translators.

Since the early summer, soldiers and translators have worked side by side to accomplish the mission of rebuilding, restoring order, and creating a better Iraq. More than simply language experts, the translators provide invaluable information about the local population, the characteristics of the different regions of Baghdad, and gauge the pulse of the Iraqi people. Through working with soldiers, they have gained an appreciation of the cultural differences and help bridge the gap between the soldiers and the citizens of Baghdad. Knowing us, they spread positive word among other Iraqis about the work that the United States has done and continues to do as both Iraqis and Americans work in unison for a better Iraq and a safer world.



A soldier shaking hands with one of the translators.

Off duty, these translators have proven themselves to be dedicated and loyal friends. Though their earnings are meager compared with even the lowest ranking soldier, they never hesitate to share with us what they have. Home cooked meals and running errands are only a small example of what they do to assist us where they can. Often, the translators have made great impact on soldier quality of life by providing a link between the soldiers and the local economy for food, electronics, movies, and music.

GATORS

HHC is, without a doubt, the most unique company in the 2-6 Infantry Battalion. Responsible for the vast array of support elements that allow the battalion to conduct its day to day operations, HHC is the link through which the other companies operate.

With everything from cooks to scouts, this often overlooked unit is the lynch pin that holds the rest of the battalion together.



Chaplin Joel Raelina going on another mission

Scouts





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Scouts are the eyes and ears of the battalion. Under normal circumstances the scout's mission is to observe and evaluate areas designated by the battalion commander. Operation Iraqi Freedom, however, poses a new set of challenges that have forced the platoon to adapt their normal method of operations.

The scout's primary job in Baghdad is to provide security for the battalion commander and the various members of his staff when they leave Camp Muleskinner. In addition to security missions the platoon is also charged with responding at a moments notice to any threats inside the battalions area of responsibility.

Mortar Platoon

The mortar platoon, like the scouts are currently tasked with a job they do not normally train for. Because the battalion is busy conducting operations there is no need to call for mortar fire. Instead, the mortars work with the Iraqi Facility Protection Services (FPS).



2LT Miranda and the mortar platoon

The FPS is an Iraqi civilian force that protects sites like hospitals, and the power stations deemed vital to the local population. In addition to their work with the FPS, the platoon also provides convoy security for the battalion.

Medics

This group of individuals is one of the most vital platoon's in the battalion. The medics ensure soldiers remain healthy by a combination of preventive medicine and active response to injuries and illness. Continual testing of water and evaluation of living conditions in the battalion's living area allows the medics to prevent infections and illness. By watching for common trends in their patients, the

medics are able to administer the appropriate medication to keep sickness to a minimum.



1LT Danie Montano, battalion PA (Left) and SSG Christy Elm battalion medic (Right)

The medical platoon also makes sure the battalion is able to react to any emergency by conducting casualty evacuation drills and ensuring that the battalion's soldiers are proficient in basic life saving techniques.

Support Platoon

The support platoon is often overlooked, but is, in a real sense, the unsung hero of the battalion. The primary mission of the support platoon is to transport equipment, and keep the battalion supplied with everything from food to fuel. Once every two days the support platoon travels to the Baghdad International Airport to pick up mail, fuel, ammunition and a wide array of other necessities vital to keeping the battalion running.



SSG Manuel Rosa IV, assistant support platoon sergeant

In addition to their normal mission, the support platoon also helps clear unexploded artillery shells, bombs and rockets. The platoon has already moved and cleared the Baghdad area of over 40,000 rounds of un-detonated explosives.





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Maintenance Platoon

Another platoon that does not receive much notoriety is the maintenance platoon. The sole purpose of this platoon is to keep the battalion's vehicles running. Though this job might not seem difficult, it requires constant supervision by a dedicated team of mechanics to keep the battalion's vehicles operational. Because the vehicles are in constant use, breakdowns are frequent. It is through their dedication to the unit's mission combined with their ingenuity, the mechanics ensure the Gator's have the ability to roll at a moments notice.

Food Service Platoon

The food service platoon, commonly referred to as the mess section, have found a new job as of late. With the opening of the new civilian operated dinning facility, the battalion's cooks have been tirelessly working to add their expertise in the preparation of meals and ensure the smooth operation of the new facility. Without their hard work and sacrifice the quality of the battalion's meals, and with it morale would plummet.

Hello To Families

With the fast paced life in Baghdad keeping the soldiers of HHC constantly on the go regular communication home is not always possible. Know that whatever their job, the men and women of HHC are working tirelessly to ensure that every member of the 2-6 Infantry Battalion makes it home safely.

As always, our thoughts and prayers are with the family members we have left behind and our fondest thought is of a speedy reunion with those we love.

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

By Ch. Stevan Horning

"Caring for the Army family" has become the absolute top priority for Army leadership. That theme resounded this week during conferences on religious support operations. Chaplains and Assistants (*Religious Support Operations NCOs*) convened in Willingen, Germany to collect resources for intense ministry ahead. The Army's leadership declared that mission success depends upon our ability to build and sustain effective, harmonious relationships among Soldiers and their families. At no time in our

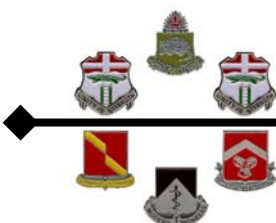
history since WWII have Army families felt so much stress, while so much of our national security depends upon our Army's ability to hold ground. If this situation doesn't prompt us to devote ourselves to prayer, what will?

Once we've asked God for wisdom and endurance, can we do more? Yes. We can intercede in prayer for our leaders, that they would see how to reduce deployments or spread the load out with an enlarged Army. Then we can pray for an ability to concentrate on what God has assigned to us individually.

As Soldiers, we employ every means to deny sanctuary to the foreign terrorists who have gathered in Iraq and Afghanistan. As spouses and parents, we diligently build bridges of intimacy to our loved ones, and learn to resolve conflicts effectively. One Bible story in particular brings together these imperatives. In *1 Samuel 30*, we read of how David's loyal followers found themselves once in a terrible squeeze between concern for their families, and the dangers of their military deployment. While David and his men were away from their homes on a mission, certain Amalekite raiders had captured the town belonging to David. The Amalekites carried off the wives and children and left David's town Ziklag a smoking ruin. Dazed with grief at the sight, David and his men wept themselves to exhaustion. Then David's men in bitterness started muttering about stoning him. *"But David found strength in the LORD his God."* He received guidance from God, and led all six hundred of his men in pursuit of the raiders. When two hundred of the men, worn out by climbing up a steep ravine, simply could not go on, David put them on medical profile and assigned them to rear detachment, guarding everyone's gear. Eventually the remaining fighters caught up with the Amalekites, conquered them, and *"David brought everything back."*

The Bible emphasizes *nothing was missing*. Then bickering broke out as the four hundred wanted to deny their rear-detachment a portion of the spoils. David ruled *all will share alike*, and that became the FSOP. Soon his entire band had recovered entirely, rebuilt their town, and settled their families again in comfort and security.

You can imagine from that story the kinds of intense conflicts and tensions existing among the fighters, the husbands and wives, and perhaps even among the wives whose husbands had quarreled.





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For any of them to snap words like "That's YOUR baggage!" at the others wouldn't really help anyone to exit the train station, would it? Rather, peace was re-established when leaders modeled forgiveness, reconciliation, and a return to mission focus. When everyone worked together, homes were rebuilt and families started functioning again. Of course, the Big Picture still included war between Israel and the Philistines and other groups. Until the Prince of Peace comes to stop all war, everybody experiences trouble. Look upward!

Some of these themes come to the forefront in Re-Union / Re-Integration briefings held every Wednesday in Baumholder ACS. Nearly all Soldiers now are starting the Re-Union process with a chaplain-led briefing downrange. Single soldiers who are PCSing or otherwise returning to Baumholder must still report to the ITC classroom in ACS at 0830 on the day of their assigned Briefing; once they sign in, however, and fill out a form, they will be released until 1100. Other categories of soldiers (couples, couples with children, singles who did not receive a briefing downrange) will remain in the program throughout the morning. All will be dismissed by about 1345. These briefings are absolutely required before clearing the post.

Holiday programs in the Chapel communities are being planned, beginning with a Thanksgiving Service in Baumholder Chapel 1 at 1130 on November 26. A numerous array of Advent and Christmas programs follow, culminating in the Gospel Service-led Watch Night prayers on December 31 at 2200. Printed schedules are posted in all the HHCs, as well as the Chapels.

STRIKING SCRIPTURE

Wednesday night Bible studies in Baumholder Chapel 1 have centered on The Ten Commandments. Last night's discussion concerned the scope and intent of the Fifth Commandment "*Honor your father and mother.*" The text of the commandment itself is *Exodus 20:12* and *Deuteronomy 5:16*. Once you read that in context you see immediately why Paul in *Ephesians 6: 1-4* calls it *the first commandment with a promise*. God gives us an incentive to obey Him in this. In fact, He never commands us to do something He does not also enable us to do; we find the promise sweetens our response. In this case, a longer life results from obedience. That we understand well from

experience: how many of us, in trouble with our parents or other authorities, "feared for our lives"?

In our Bible exploration last night, we began with a look at *Leviticus 19:32*. That tells us to *Rise up in the presence of the aged*. When an officer of high rank enters the room where we sit, we stand up, don't we, out of respect for his or her rank? We stand up to show that we have suspended our own priorities, and are now ready to listen to our superior. Similarly, *Proverbs 23:22* urges us to listen and to show respect: *Listen to your father, who gave you life, and do not despise your mother when she is old*. We learn from this our dependence upon the human beings who gave life to us. That alone should subdue our pride. Nor should we vaunt our youth and abilities over those who now have become physically infirm; they still teach us.

Another text, *Romans 13: 1-7*, expands our application of the Fifth Commandment. From it we understand that *all authorities that exist have been appointed by God*; therefore we must respect governmental authorities, teachers, policemen, military authorities, church leaders. Of course, these authorities remain answerable to God! If they abuse their authority, He will rebuke, punish, and remove them. Therefore, parents who expect respect from their children must ensure they themselves act respectably. Immediately after citing the Fifth Commandment in order to regulate the behavior of subordinates, Paul adds with equal emphasis, "*Fathers, do not exasperate your children, but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.*" Let's not demand more from our children than what they are capable of doing. Don't tell your four-year-old son when you deploy, "Now be the man of the house." He cannot do it! In other words, if you are deputized by the Lord, be sure you act also as gently, considerately, and lovingly as does the Lord when He nurtures us.

Finally, we looked at *1 Timothy 5:8*, which applies the Fifth Commandment principle in our care of elderly relatives. The Church should support widows in their distress, Paul writes, but if children are able to take care of their parents, especially a widowed mother, they must do so. In sum, we respond to the Fifth Commandment by saying, "**We will give obedience and honor to God and to all authorities He has appointed; we will provide for the needs of our parents; we will not exasperate our**





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children or other people who are in a subordinate position to us."

Can we so model this response, that even our Iraqi friends will notice the Spirit of love and peace?

BAUMHOLDER INFORMATION

October

31 Hours for Trick or Treating in U.S. controlled housing areas are from 00-1930

November

- 2 Sunday Brunch at Rheinlander
- 4 Book Club Meeting at 18:00— everyone's invited!
- 10 USAREUR Training Holiday
- 11 Veterans Day
- 21-23 Holiday Bazaar at Hall of Champions
- 25 Town Hall
- 26 Deployment Support Group
LINKS
- 27 Thanksgiving Day
Thanksgiving Meal at 2nd BDE and Strassburg
Dining Facilities from 11:00-15:00.
- 28 USAREUR Training Holiday
German Worker Shop Day Off

December

- 5 Community Holiday Tree Lighting
- 7 Sunday Brunch
- 19 Niki Barr MWR Concert
- 24 USAREUR Training Holiday
German Holiday
- 25 Christmas Day
- 26 German Holiday
- 30 No Townhall
- 31 USAREUR Training Holiday
NO LINKS

Volunteer Santa's are needed for the holiday season! If you have a jolly disposition and like milk & cookies please call John Visneski at 485-8779

DoDDS CALENDAR

- 1st Tuesday of the month SAC Meeting, Baumholder High at 1630
- 3rd Thursday of the month SAC Meeting, Wetzlar Elementary at 1430
- 31 Oct No School for Students, Teacher work Day

- 1 Nov Super Six High School Football Championships
- 5 Nov 1430 SAC Meeting, Neubruecke Elementary
- 6 & 7 Nov All Elementary will have Parent Teacher Conferences
- 7 Nov Baumholder High School will have Parent Teacher Conferences
- 17 Nov 1515 IAC Meeting, BSB Conference Room
- 18 Nov 1430 SAC Meeting, Smith Elementary
- 27 & 28 No School, Thanksgiving Recess

RHEINLANDER EVENTS

- Sunday Brunch, 2 Nov, \$12.50
 - Indoor Garage Sale 15 Nov, 0900 – 1300.
 - Tuesday night Kids' Night with movies, board games, and a \$3.50 per child menu
- Internet Access only 9 cents/minute in the Cyber Zone!!**

POC: Amy Gee at DSN 485-7507

OUTDOOR REC TOURS

- 1 Nov Czech Crystal Shopping
 - 6 Nov Ikea Shopping
 - 15 Nov Metz Flea Market
 - 15 Nov Centro Mall
 - 20 Nov Ikea Shopping
 - 22 Nov Frankfurt Zoo
 - 28 Nov Trier X-Mass Market
 - 07 - 10 Nov 03, Veterans' Day Ski trip – Kaprun, Austria
 - 26 - 30 Nov 03, Thanksgiving Ski Trip – Kaprun, Austria
- POC:** Jeffrey Milkes at DSN 485-6352

Staff are recruiting for volunteer trip leaders at outdoor recreation. Training and free admission on trips included!

HOST NATION SPONSORED EVENTS

- 3 Nov Market at Kirn
- 8 Nov Flea market at Homburg/Saar
- 15&29 Nov Flea market at Metz, France
- 28 Nov Christmas market at Oberstein
- 29 Nov Christmas market at Reichenbach
- 29 Nov Christmas market at Berglangenbach
- 29 Nov Andreas market at Kirn





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St. Martin Parades

09 November 2003: Kirn 1800

10 November 2003: Baumholder 1700;
Berglangenbach 1800; Leitzweiler 1730; Hahnweiler
1815; Hoppstaedten 1730;

11 November 2003: Heimbach 1730; Rueckweiler
1700; Mettweiler 1800; Birkenfeld 1730

POC: Madeleine Dwoiakowski at DSN 485-1600

BAUMHOLDER HEALTH CLINIC

- Baumholder Health Clinic has a new phone system. 485-8080 is the only working number.
- When you call central appointments, 485-8080, the computer voice will assign you a number. Please hold the line and the clerks will take your calls in order.
- To save time, the system will ask you to punch in your sponsor's SSN. Please have it ready when you call. Rotary and digital phones will have to wait to speak with a clerk, as they cannot be used to input the SSN. They can still be used to get an appointment.
- This new system also comes with elevator music for your listening enjoyment

Youth Sports Physicals will be on 6 and 13 November 2003 from 5:00-7:00pm at the Health Clinic. You must sign your child up ahead of time at any Child Care Center or Youth Services Main Office, Bldg. 8743.

Flu shots are available to all active duty, family members and DoD civilians on M, W, and Th from 1pm until close at the clinic.

Prescription refills MUST be done over the phone. Prescriptions called in before 11:30pm will be available for pick-up after 1:30pm on the next duty day. Please call 485-6879! This system speeds up the line for those filling both new prescriptions and refills alike.

Baumholder Health Clinic Physical Therapy is seeing patients with back, neck, shoulder, elbow, hand, hip, knee or ankle pain. You do not need to

see your Doctor first! Come straight to us. Bring your records. Call 485-6357/7151 for more information. Active Duty can walk-in to sick call during these hours: Mon, Tue, Fri: 8:00-10:00am **or** Wed 9:30-11:00am

BAUMHOLDER SPORTS & FITNESS

We are seeking certified (or willing to become certified) instructors for the following contractor positions:

Aerobics

Yoga

Pilates

Marshall Arts

POC: Warren Latham at 485-6575 or David Jefferson, at 485-7176

CHILD & YOUTH SERVICES EVENTS

POC: Joanne Hernandez at 485-7198

07 Nov – Dining out Italian in Kusel, Cost: order off the menu

08 Nov – Sadie Hawkins dance at Neubruecke YS, Cost: \$3

22 Nov – Midnight basketball at the HOC, no cost

26 Nov – Thanksgiving dance for 9th - 12th grades at the Teen Café, Cost: \$3

Breakfast With Santa

Saturday, 13 Dec at Neubruecke YS

Time: 1000 – 1200

Cost: \$5 per family including a photo

Ballet Classes - Ages 3-4, cost: \$15 per month

Ages 5-18, cost: \$30 per month

Swimming Lessons – 2-week sessions, Mon-Thu

\$25 per session 6 months – 18 years old

Next session begins 3 Nov

Must be registered with CYS and must have a current health certificate on file.

Parents Night Out – Nov 15 from 18:00-22:00 at Smith. Spaces limited – call now!





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YOUTH WINTER SPORTS

Basketball – \$30 for first child, \$27 for second
Cheerleading – \$20 for first child, \$18 for second
Registration ends 5 Dec 03
Minimum 5 years old
Winter sports season: Practice starts in December
Games begin in January

BAUMHOLDER EDUCATION CENTER

- **Functional Academic Skills Training (FAST)**
03-17 Nov 2003
- **Term 2 College and Adult Education Courses**
27 Oct – 19 December 03
Central Texas College & UMUC courses now available
- **Adult Education**
ESL course Wed/Fri 11:30 – 12:30
- **Effective Military Writing II** 17-21 Nov 03
- **REMINDER:** Army Emergency Relief (AER)
Spouse Education Assistance Program
AER will pay up to 50% of an active duty spouse's tuition at local colleges!
- New financial aid forms for 2003-04 now available.

Visit the Education Center in building 8332 or call 485-7557

www.baumholder.army.mil/education

DECA

- Our New Deli/Bakery is offering a Daily Special, Monday – Friday. It includes ½ Rotisserie Chicken, Noodle or Potato Salad & a Brotchen for only \$2.50.
- The Deli is also offering a Daily Sandwich Special, which includes a ¼ Sandwich and a bag of chips, regular price \$3.70 on special for only \$3.20, Monday – Friday.
- And Guess What? The Deli is now taking phone-in orders for sandwiches, Monday – Friday from 1000-1600.

To place an order, please call :

DSN 485-7148/6666.

Civ: 6783-6-7148 or 06783-6-6666

BAUMHOLDER COMMUNITY SPOUSES CLUB

The **Angel Tree** is a tradition that goes back many years. It's a way that we can give to children in our community. The Angel Tree will be located in the old

Doner Kebab restaurant next to the PX. It will have angel ornaments decorating it that will list the child's age, gender and a gift that will be under \$20. All you need to do in order to participate is take an ornament, buy the gift and you can even get it wrapped at the gift wrapping table. Bring it back to the tree and BCSC will distribute the gifts. In order for this to be successful, we need your help. **If you know of any child that might benefit from this tradition, please contact your FRL in your unit, or either April Reneau@us.army.mil or BC/185 412 or Tina.Olson@us.army.mil or BC/900 654 by November 25.**

Christmas is Coming!

And that means the famous gift-wrap fund raiser at the PX. Any group that is not a private organization is welcome to participate. Each group will need to contact Gina Cowles for sign-up at ginalyn.cowles@us.army.mil.

We Need YOU!

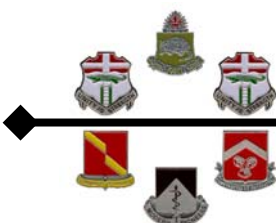
We're still looking for a few good spouses! The following positions are still open: 2nd VP, Treasurer, and Tours & Activities. If interested contact Melissa Schaffner at melissa.a.schaffner@us.army.mil or BC/990 969

BAUMHOLDER RECREATIONAL EVENTS

- Baumholder Bowling Center has a "Hulk" and "Spiderman" club! Take home a free bowling bowl (6-15 lbs) after the completion of the club.
- The Rolling Hills Golf Club is offering a "Turkey Shoot" on Nov 15 at 10:00. \$25 entry fee for members. Non-members pay green fees. Drawings for a free turkey after the event! The club has several Christmas gift ideas for the golfer!

HOLIDAY MAILING DATES

These are the recommended dates to have Christmas cards, letters, and parcels placed in the mail to ensure proper delivery by Christmas Day.





THE STRIKER STATEMENT

Issue # 24 OIF

30 October 2003



FROM GERMANY TO CONUS

SAM PARCELS 20 November 2003, Thursday

PAL PARCELS 04 December 2003, Thursday

PRIORITY PARCELS 11 December 2003,
Thursday

FIRST CLASS LETTERS AND CARDS 11
December 2003, Thursday

EXPRESS MAIL 18 December 2003, Thursday

FROM GERMANY TO CENTCOM AOR

MPS PARCELS 20 November 2003, Thursday

SAM PARCELS 6 November 2003, Thursday

Mailing Guidance to CENTCOM AOR

While there is no specific limit to number of MPS packages mailed to CENTCOM AOR, patrons should take into consideration time, space availability, and resources to transport the mail. Helpful hints include:

- ❖ Recommend mailing 5 MPS packages per visit to ensure quicker processing of the mail at the finance windows.
- ❖ Appointments can be made at the local APO between the hours of 0800 - 0900 hours for personnel with more than 5 packages.
- ❖ Smaller parcels generally move quicker due to space availability as opposed to larger parcels, which has more space requirements.

Keep the mailing deadlines in mind when sending packages. Earlier is better.

ARMY COMMUNITY SERVICES

RELOCATION ASSISTANCE FOR SPOUSES

If your spouse is currently deployed, but has received orders to relocate, then don't delay planning and organizing your move! You can take care of many move-related tasks before your spouse returns to Baumholder. The more you get done now, the less stressful your move will be. And, as an added bonus, you will have more quality time to spend together when the soldier returns from the deployment.

The Baumholder ACS invites all spouses to schedule individualized relocation planning consultations. Whether the service member is currently deployed or in Baumholder, spouses can obtain the same quality assistance as the service member. We will provide you with a comprehensive

packet about your new location, as well as information to help you organize a smooth move. Relocation assistance is available whether the move is a PCS move or the service member is retiring or separating from the Army.

Please call ACS at 485-8188 or 06783-68188 for information and to schedule an appointment.

RE-INTEGRATION AFTER DEPLOYMENT

ACS is offering a class on Wednesdays that focuses on issues after the deployment. Free child care is available, and lunch is provided. Please call 485-8188 or 06783-68188 to reserve your seat!

CLASSES

5 Nov - *Checkbook Management*, 0900 – 1030

3-5 Nov 03 - *Newcomer's Orientation*, 830 – 1430 at ACS, Bldg. 8746. Activities include: Community information, Idar-Oberstein visit, and AFTB Level I

12 Nov - *Successful Money Management*, 0900 – 1100

ACS NEEDS VOLUNTEERS!

MWR Holiday Bazaar

Tree Lighting Ceremony

ACS

Post Office

Library

Call 485-8188 or 06783-68188 for details!

New Parent Education & Support Program

POC: Melody Tavera & Jean-Marie Williams at 485-6932/6931

Nurturing Parenting: Infants, Toddlers & Preschoolers

- 12 two-hour sessions which meet one day a week for 12 weeks
- Every Monday, 1600 – 1800, starting 10 Nov 03
- Classes will take place in Bldg 8222 (formerly the Baumholder USO office)
- Two separate groups: one for parents and one for children which meet concurrently
- Parents & children engage in a 30-minute family nurturing time which includes games, songs, infant & child massage, and a snack.

